airport is an old one. Though, it is working at present it is likely to be replaced by Augusst, 1999.

Subsidy to Gujarat Flying Club

2188. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been the policy of Government to encourage flying among the youth; and

(b) what has been the Central subsidy to the Gujarat Flying Club in Ahmedabad during the last 5 years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amount of Central subvention paid to the Ahmedabad Gliding and Flying Club during the last five years is as under:—

Year	Amount of subvention (Rupees in lakhs)
1993-94	0.93
1994-95	0.85
1995-96	1.66
1996-97	0.77
1997-98	0.58

Revision of civil aviation policy

2189. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning a near-complete turn-around in its Civil Aviation policy to allow foreign airlines and aviation companies not only to take up an equity stake in domestic airlines but also to invest in airports on a build-own-operate (BOO) basis;

(b) if so, the broad parameters of the proposals under consideration; and

(c) the time-frame by which the new policy is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (c) In accordance with the existing policy on domestic air transport services sector, 100% Non-Resident Indian (NRI)/Overseas Corporate Body (OCB) and 40% foreign equity participation is permissible in the domestic air transport services sector. However, equity from foreign airline, directly or indirectly, is prohibited.

"Policy on airport Infrastrcture" provides for foreign equity participation upto 74% with automatic approvals and upto 100% with special permission. It has been decided to corporatise existing airports at Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Calcutta and the proposed new airport at Bangalore.

The Airports Authority of India is in the process of appointing Financial and Legal Consultants who will advise on the various aspects of corporatisation.

Joint Board of Directors for Indian Airlines and Air India

2190. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Joint Board of Directors for Indian Airlines and Air India was discussed by Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any show cause notice was issued to the Board of Directors of Indian Airlines and AI; and

(d) the impact created on the working of the airlines due to this action of Government?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (d) In order to facilitate focused attention on the specific issues to be tackled by the two airlines individually and with a view to send the right signals to potential investors in the restructuring/disinvestment process envisaged, the Government have, after giving the matter a deep thought, decided on the constitution of